

REMARKS

The Office Action of July 6, 2006, and the cited art have been carefully considered. The Application has been amended to eliminate unnecessary limitations and to correct grammatical and similar errors. Reconsideration of the rejection of the Application is respectfully requested based on the amendments and following discussion.

REJECTION 112

1. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph.

Claim 1 has been amended.

REJECTION 102

1. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7 and 8 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Yoshida, US 6,809,478.

Yoshida '478 teaches a high-pressure discharge lamp with an electrode having a particular thorium oxide concentration in the electrode and lamp volume. In passing, the Yoshida '478 suggested the electrode might be coated with rhenium, ruthenium, platinum, rhodium, or gold.

Yoshida '478 fails to provide a prima facie case of invalidity under 35 USC 102, since Yoshida '478 fails to show, suggest, state or claim a limitation included in Applicants' claims. Yoshida '478 fails to teach a seal where the electrode portion is coated with one of the metals, "... *iridium, and osmium.*"

Withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the rejected claims are therefore respectfully requested.

REJECTION 103

2. Claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Yoshida, US 6,809,478 and in respect of *In re Boesch* 205 USPQ 215.

The rejection of claim 5 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Yoshida, US 6,809,478 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration thereof is requested.

Yoshida '478 only suggests an electrode may be coated with rhenium, ruthenium, platinum, rhodium, or gold. Yoshida '478 fails to teach an electrode or a seal foil coated with one of the metals iridium, and osmium.

It is believed that a full and complete response to the Office Action has been made, that the Application as amended is patentably distinct over the cited art, and that the case is now in condition to be passed to issue. Reconsideration of the amended application is therefore requested, and an early favorable notice of allowance is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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